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Third suspect arrested in 1994 slaying of man

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FORT WORTH - Another man was arrested Monday in the 1994 robbery and slaying of a 39-year-old Fort Worth resident, bringing to three the number of suspects in the killing.

On Monday, the U.S. Marshal's task force arrested Kyris D. McGraw, 27, on a capital-murder warrant at an east Fort Worth home in connection with the shooting of Lawrence Wheaton, a laborer, on Sept. 8, 1994.

Less than a week ago, the task force arrested McGraw's cousin Courtney McGraw, 26, a recent prison parolee.

The third suspect, Anthony Earl Smith, 31, who remains in prison for an unrelated conviction, was charged Monday with capital murder.

Police said Wheaton died at John Peter Smith Hospital one day after he was shot twice in the chest in his Glen Garden apartment.

The case remained dormant until July, when homicide Detectives John McCaskill and Matt Hardy traveled to the Beto prison unit at Tennessee Colony after receiving a letter from an inmate who said he had information about the slaying.

After talking with him, the detectives conducted numerous interviews and identified the three suspects, police have said.

According to the arrest-warrant affidavits, investigators believe that Smith was attempting to rob Wheaton at his home in the 1200 block of East Lowden Street when a fight began. As the two men struggled over the guns, one went off, and the bullet struck Smith in the finger, the affidavit said.

As Smith and Wheaton continued to struggle, the other suspects kicked in the door and shot Wheaton, the affidavit says.

Police say they believe that the robbery was drug-related. Officers found the apartment littered with broken furniture, drugs and cash, the *Star-Telegram* has reported.

Kyris McGraw was in the Mansfield Jail on Monday with a bail set at \$250,000.

Courtney McGraw remained in the Tarrant County Jail on Monday with bail set at \$100,000.

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